

step begins within 5 seconds from the termination of the secondary injection step.

13. (New) The process of claim 2, wherein the recession of the movable mold element subsequent to the secondary injection step begins within 5 seconds from the termination of the secondary injection step.

14. (New) The process of claim 1, further comprising compressing the foamed article by pressing the movable mold element onto the foamed article within 60 seconds from the termination of the foaming step.

15. (New) The process of claim 13, further comprising compressing the foamed article by pressing the movable mold element onto the foamed article within 60 seconds from the termination of the foaming step.

16. (New) The process of claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition comprises a polyolefin resin and a foaming agent.

17. (New) The process of claim 15, wherein the thermoplastic resin composition comprises a polyolefin resin and a foaming agent.

18. (New) The process of claim 16 wherein the polyolefin resin is a polypropylene resin.

19. (New) The process of claim 17 wherein the polyolefin resin is a polypropylene resin.

20. (New) The process of claim 16, wherein the polyolefin resin has a melt flow rate, determined according to ASTM D 1238

at 230°C under a load of 2.16kg, in the range of from 30 to 200 g/10 min.

21. (New) The process of claim 17, wherein the polyolefin resin has a melt flow rate, determined according to ASTM D 1238 at 230°C under a load of 2.16kg, in the range of from 30 to 200 g/10 min.

22. (New) A foamed article of a thermoplastic resin composition produced by the process of claim 1.

23. (New) A foamed article of a thermoplastic resin composition produced by the process of claim 17.

24. (New) The foamed article of claim 22, having a solid skin layer with a thickness in the range of from 0.1 to 0.7 mm.

25. (New) The foamed article of claim 23, having a solid skin layer with a thickness in the range of from 0.1 to 0.7 mm.

26. (New) The foamed article of claim 22, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

27. (New) The foamed article of claim 23, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

28. (New) The foamed article of claim 24, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.

29. (New) The foamed article of claim 25, having a foaming expansion ratio in the range of from 1.05 to 5 times the non-expanded original volume.